

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the present amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

This amendment cancels claims 16 and 18-25. This amendment also amends claim 15.

Claim 15 as amended patentably defines over a combination of Borman, U.S. Patent No. 3,789,865, Luibrand, U.S. Patent No. 5,505,276, Bullard et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,886,814, Shelhart, U.S. Patent No. 3,434,282, and Hancock, U.S. Patent No. 3,861,241. Claim 15, as amended, recites six conduits. The six conduits include supply and return conduits between the automatic transmission and the reservoir, supply and return conduits between the fluid motor and the reservoir, a supply conduit from the automatic transmission to the cooler, and a return conduit from the cooler to the reservoir.

The system of Borman as modified by Luibrand, Bullard et al., Shelhart, and Hancock fails to teach or suggest the six conduits of claim 15. Borman teaches that pump 42 is in fluid communication with a primary reservoir 10 via an inlet passage 44. The pump 42 supplies fluid to a fluid system 46, which may include "an automatic transmission, power steering, power brakes or a combination thereof..." (Borman, Col. 2, lines 28-38). Borman also teaches "a return passage 54 which returns fluid from the fluid system 46, after [the fluid] has completed the work required thereby, to the primary reservoir 10." (Borman, Col. 2, lines 35-42). There is no teaching or suggestion in any of Borman, Luibrand, Bullard et al.,

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Shelhart, or Hancock for replacing the single inlet passage 44 and the single return passage 54 of Borman with separate conduits extending to each portion of the fluid system.

Therefore, allowance of claim 15 is respectfully requested.

Moreover, claim 15, as amended, recites that the power steering pump pumps fluid that flowed through the automatic transmission to the fluid motor. None of Borman, Luibrand, Bullard et al., Shelhart, or Hancock teaches or suggest a power steering pump that pumps fluid that had previously flowed through the automatic transmission to the fluid motor. As set forth on pages 8-9 of the specification of the present invention, by using fluid that the automatic transmission has warmed, noise can be reduced in the power steering pump, particularly during cold starts. Since Borman, Luibrand, Bullard et al., Shelhart, and Hancock fail to teach or suggest this feature of claim 15, allowance of claim 15 is respectfully requested.

Claim 17 depends from claim 15 and is allowable for at least the same reason as claim 15. Therefore, allowance of claim 17 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

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Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in  
the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account  
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Respectfully submitted,



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